IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Ebel et al.

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Hayles, Ashford S.

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Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

I. **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This paper is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated June 22, 2009. Please reconsider the above-referenced patent application in view of the following remarks: